

U.S. Serial No. 10/075,989

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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A multifunction printer comprising:
  - a scanner section[[,]];
  - a printer section[[, and]];
  - reset means for resetting only the printer section even if the scanner section is operating[[.]]; and
  - a central processing unit that executes a real-time operating system (OS) of the multifunction printer and tasks running on the real-time OS,
  - wherein the reset means causes a task related to a printing operation and running on the real-time OS to exit a processing being performed during a printer section resetting by said reset means, and cancels the printing operation without rebooting the real-time operation of the OS.
2. (Currently amended) A multifunction printer according to claim 1, further comprising reception means for receiving a printer section reset command for resetting the printer section, wherein
  - upon reception of the printer section reset command, the reset means resets only the printer section.

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3. (Currently amended) A multifunction printer according to claim 1 ~~comprising only one~~, wherein said central processing unit is the only central processing unit of said multifunction printer.

4. (Currently amended) A multifunction printer according to claim 3, comprising a scanner section, a printer section, reset means for resetting only the printer section even if the scanner section is operating, and only one central processing unit;

wherein the reset means is realized by the central processing unit which executes at least

a first task, upon reception of the printer section reset command, for writing dummy data interpreted as insignificant data as print data into an input buffer for storing print data transmitted from a computer as print data; and

a second task for reading the print data stored in the input buffer and expanding the data into image data.

5. (Original) A multifunction printer according to claim 4, wherein the reset means further comprises as a task executed by the central processing unit:

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a third task, upon reception of the printer section reset command, for setting reset identification information indicating that the printer section is being reset.

6. (Currently amended) A multifunction printer according to claim 5, wherein the second task has a highest-order main loop process and a low-order loop process deriving in a nested loop manner from the main loop process, and wherein when the reset identification information is set, the low-order loop process exits the process and returns to the high-order loop process.

7. (Currently amended) A multifunction printer according to claim 6, wherein when the current mode is a character mode for printing character data, the second task performs processing for determining whether or not the dummy data occurs continuously a predetermined number of times or more, and wherein when the current mode is a graphic mode for printing graphic data, the second task skips the determination processing.

8. (Currently amended) A multifunction printer according to claim 2, further comprising:

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data expansion processing means for expanding received print data, wherein when the reset means receives the printer section reset command, the data expansion processing means ~~for terminating~~ terminates expanding the print data in progress; and

low-order processing means being started by the data expansion processing means, wherein when a predetermined time has elapsed since the low-order processing means was started, the low-order processing means ~~returning~~ returns to the data expansion processing means if the processing does not terminate.

9. (Original) A multifunction printer according to claim 8, further comprising print engine initialization means for restoring a print engine to an initial state if expanding the print data by the data expansion processing means terminates in progress.

10. (Original) A multifunction printer according to claim 9, wherein after the print engine initialization means restores the print engine to the initial state, the setup state of the data expansion processing means is restored to the initial state.

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11. (Currently amended) A control method of a multifunction printer having a scanner section, [[and]] a printer section, and a central processing unit that executes a real-time operating system (OS) of the multifunction printer and tasks running on the real-time OS, comprising a step of the steps of:

resetting only the printer section, even if the scanner section is operating; and

during said resetting step, causing a task related to a printing operation and running on the real-time OS to exit a processing being performed, and canceling the printing operation without rebooting the real-time operation of the OS.

12. (Currently amended) A program for causing a multifunction printer having a scanner section, [[and]] a printer section, and a central processing unit, wherein the program is executable by the central processing unit and, when executed, causes the central processing unit to execute a reset step of resetting only the printer section even if the scanner section is operating, including causing a task related to a printing operation and running on a real-time OS executed by the central processing unit, to exit a processing being

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performed, and canceling the printing operation without  
rebooting the real-time operation of the OS.

13. (Currently amended) A record medium ~~recording~~  
storing a program for causing a multifunction printer having a  
scanner section, [[and]] a printer section, and a central  
processing unit, wherein the program is executable by the  
central processing unit and, when executed, causes the central  
processing unit to execute a reset step of resetting only the  
printer section even if the scanner section is operating,  
including causing a task related to a printing operation and  
running on a real-time OS executed by the central processing  
unit, to exit a processing being performed, and canceling the  
printing operation without rebooting the real-time operation  
of the OS.